

## NEWS

ART COMPLEX MUSEUM

# Give this tea ceremony a gold star

Art Complex  
program receives  
state award

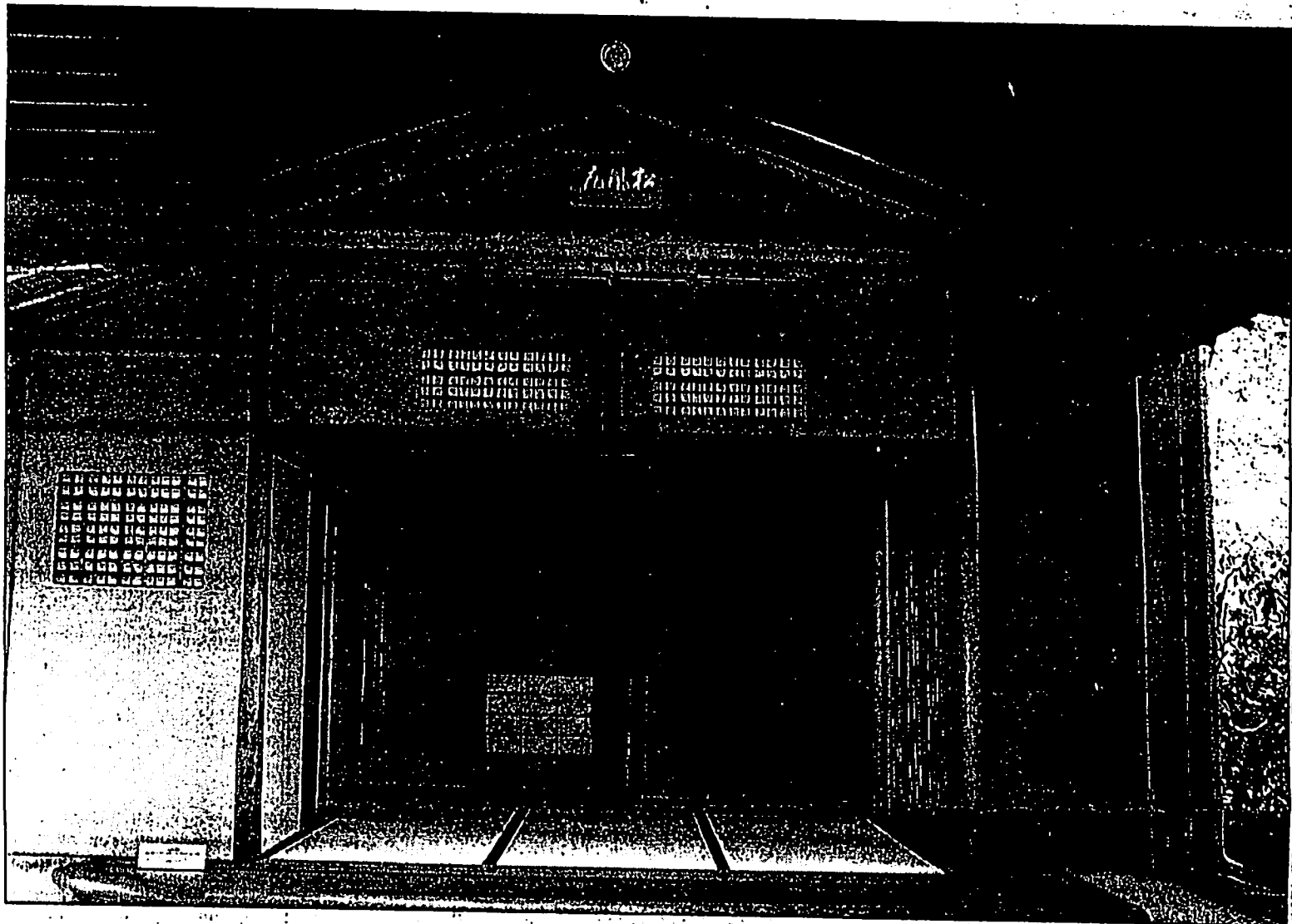
By ANDRIA FARRELL  
MPG Newspapers

The stars shine brightly in Duxbury. The Art Complex Museum has been honored with the Gold Star Award by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, for its Japanese Tea Ceremony outreach program.

The Japanese Tea Ceremony, funded in part by the Duxbury Cultural Council, introduces Japanese culture to second-graders. The program is specially designed to teach the students the art of Suni-e painting, creating rice-paper scrolls, and the traditional tea-ceremony experience. At the conclusion of the program, the students are invited to participate in a tea-ceremony experience with Tea Master Glenn Sorci Pereira.

The outreach program was started several years ago by second-grade teacher Helen Fowler, who won a Fulbright Grant to study in Japan, and the museum's former educational coordinator, Diane Muliero.

Alice Vautrain is chairman of the Duxbury Cultural Council (DCC). "Many people have contributed to this successful project," she said. "This is the kind of project that the DCC is pleased to assist."



Shofuan is the Tea Hut at the Art Complex Museum.

Staff photo/Andria Farrell

and evaluated by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. It is awarded based on a variety of criteria ranging from artistic quality, success in reaching out to under-served constituents, educational value, and the ability to engage the community.

The Art Complex Tea Hut, *Shofuan*, meaning, "Wind in the Pines Hut," was designed by Sano Gofu and built in Japan in 1969. It was reassembled in Duxbury in 1975 and dedicated to Kojiro Tomita, friend of Art Complex Museum co-founders Carl and Edith Weyerhacuser, at an inaugural tea ceremony. The Weyerhacusers believed experiencing the Japanese tea ceremony was the best way to understand the Japanese culture.

*Shofaun* is a traditional *san jo daime* or 3 1/4 Japanese hut. Japanese huts are traditionally described by the number of mats they accommodate. The Art Complex's Tea Hut hosts two single sliding doors called *fusuma*, connecting the tea room with the kitchen area, or *mizuya*, where all the preparations for the tea meal, *kaiseki*, and the tea ceremony are made.

The name *Shofaun* was written by the hut designer under the peak of the hut's roof. *Shofaun* draws reference to the familiar word *matsukaze*, which means "pine wind," the sound a kettle makes when water is hot

enough to make tea (boiling).

The Tea Ceremony program for school children is designed in two parts. The first part involves a museum educator visiting the classroom to describe the tea ceremony, along with some historical background and tradi-

tions in Japanese culture. The classroom experience is also where the students learn about Japanese utensils, how to make scrolls out of rice paper, and Sumi-e painting. For the second part of the program, the children are invited to take part in a tradi-

tional Japanese Tea Ceremony at the Art Complex Museum's Tea Hut.

For more information on the Japanese Tea Program, contact the Art Complex Museum's education coordinator, Sally Dean Mello, or visit the site [www.artcomplex.org](http://www.artcomplex.org).